NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending July 17, 1994

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National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
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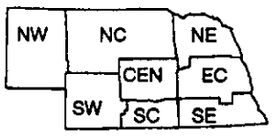
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged three to six degrees below normals. Precipitation occurred throughout the week with amounts varying from .30 inch at Omaha up to 2.70 inches at North Platte.

GENERAL

Despite mid-week rain delays, wheat harvest made excellent progress last week, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. The continued warm, humid weather, with frequent rains in many areas last week, proved difficult for hay harvest but provided another week of ideal growing conditions for row crops. Producer activities included weed control, moving farm-stored grain to market, aerating farm-stored grain, and livestock care. Severe weather mid-week in the Panhandle slowed harvest progress and damaged buildings, property, and crops. Elsewhere, rains mainly slowed fieldwork activities with some isolated hail damage.

CROPS

Winter wheat harvest was nearing completion at the end of the week with 91% combined. Harvest activities were delayed due to weather conditions but were about 2-1/2 weeks ahead of normal. This completion rate compares with 13% last year and 57% for the 5-year average.

The all corn condition was rated at 1% poor, 15% fair, 62% good, and 22% excellent. Irrigated corn was rated at 83% good or excellent and dryland corn was rated at 86% good or excellent. Plant development continued at a rapid pace with the favorable growing conditions last week. Silking was about ten days ahead of normal. Reports indicated some storm damaged plants were "growing out" of their injuries.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean condition was rated at 9% fair, 64% good, and 27% excellent, an improvement from the previous week. Plant development continued at a faster than normal pace with blooming more than two weeks ahead of normal. Producers were walking, wicking, and cultivating for weed control.

Sorghum condition was rated at 10% fair, 74% good, and 16% excellent. Weed control measures continued active when possible. This crop also was maturing rapidly with heading at 9%, a week ahead of normal.

Oat harvest progressed to 55% complete as of Sunday. This compared to 1% last year and 36% for the 5-year average.

Dry bean condition was rated at 5% poor, 34% fair, 57% good, and 4% excellent. Crop development moved rapidly with 32% blooming to date and 13% setting pods.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 2% very poor, 4% poor, 25% fair, 63% good, and 6% excellent. Second cutting activities made good progress last week in spite of damp conditions with 72% harvested. This compared with 28% last year and 54% for the 5-year average. Wild hay condition was rated at 2% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 61% good, and 5% excellent.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 90% of normal and compares with 103% last year. Rainfall has promoted grass regrowth with some pastures doing very well. Areas in the west still require continued additional moisture. These areas with short grass supplies have had some producers reducing herd size, creep feeding calves, or moving cattle between pastures sooner than usual. Flies are becoming a problem for cattle in the northeast.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JULY 17, 1994	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn silked	39	43	63	55	68	53	88	94	66	23	9	27
% corn dough stage	1	0	4	2	5	1	7	12	5	0	0	1
% sorghum headed	0	5	3	3	8	12	7	10	9	0	0	3
% soybeans blooming	0	70	76	52	72	24	78	90	76	42	12	29
% soybeans setting pods	0	5	11	2	9	11	7	10	9	0	1	2
% alfalfa second cutting	33	71	69	77	90	78	90	96	72	52	28	54
% wheat ripe	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	98	77	88
% wheat harvested	79	68	70	77	97	98	100	100	91	72	13	57
% oats harvested	24	41	43	84	69	85	87	100	55	23	1	36
% dry beans blooming	37	80	54	20	0	20	34	0	32	6	9	n/a
% dry beans podded	15	3	0	0	0	7	0	0	13	0	n/a	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 15, 1994												
Days suitable	5.2	5.3	2.9	2.9	3.4	3.1	3.5	4.6	3.8	2.4	2.7	
Topsoil moisture - Short	53	0	0	0	0	22	0	23	12	15	4	
(Percent) - Adequate	34	100	47	87	86	67	82	77	72	53	34	
- Surplus	13	0	53	13	14	11	18	0	16	32	62	
Subsoil moisture - Short	60	0	0	13	0	44	0	15	15	16	1	
(Percent) - Adequate	40	100	93	74	91	56	100	85	81	76	49	
- Surplus	0	0	7	13	9	0	0	0	4	8	50	

n/a = not available.

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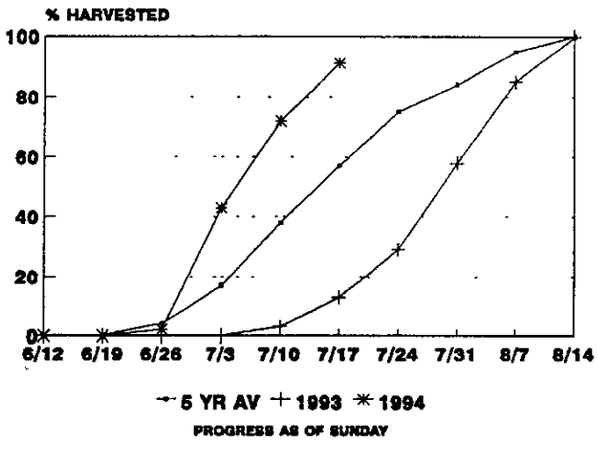
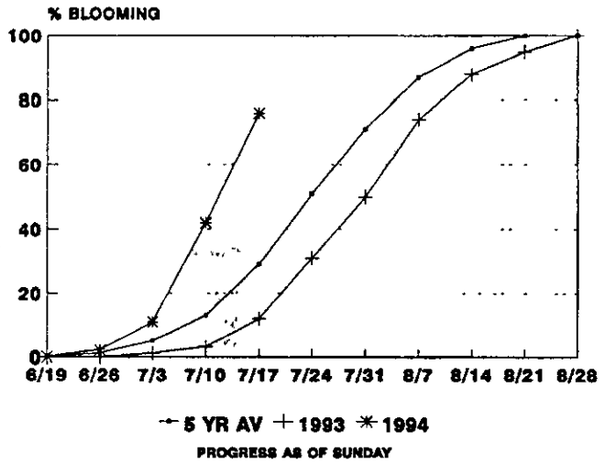
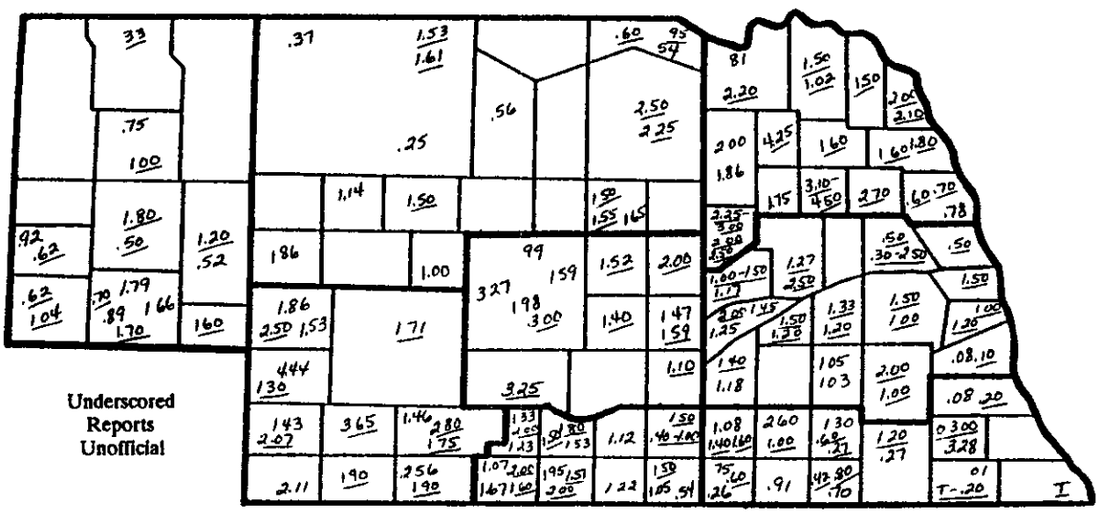
WINTER WHEAT
HARVESTED FOR ALL PURPOSES



SOYBEANS BLOOMING



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1994



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 15, 1994

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1 09	92	1.44	1 86	.92	2.20	1.27	1.02
Total since April 1	6.33	11.14	11.39	12.09	14 07	8.62	12.13	12.57
Normal since April 1	8.98	10.57	12.03	11.39	12.61	9.63	11.35	12.95
Total as % of normal	70%	105%	95%	106%	112%	90%	107%	97%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 17, 1994

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	92	52	71	---	.81	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	88	53	69	-5	1.00	1374	1501	1330
	Sidney	90	53	70	---	35	1290	1420	1208
NC	Valentine	85	53	70	-5	.54	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	1297	1420	1219
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	1329	1469	1406
NE	Norfolk	87	59	72	-4	3 68	---	---	---
	Sioux City	86	60	72	-4	1 21	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1402	1536	1481
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1390	1527	1418
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	1497	1642	1512
CEN	Grand Island	87	58	71	-6	2.37	---	---	---
	Ord	87	57	71	---	---	1437	1584	1443
	Wood River	---	---	---	---	---	1487	1636	1574
EC	Lincoln	88	56	74	-4	2.03	1610	1762	1635
	Omaha	88	57	74	-3	.30	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	1511	1660	1598
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	1509	1663	1591
	Rising City	---	---	---	---	---	1489	1637	1566
SW	Imperial	86	55	70	---	1 94	---	---	---
	North Platte	85	54	70	-4	2 71	1398	1530	1378
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	1539	1692	1540
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1497	1648	1527
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	1538	1698	1579
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	1541	1701	1581
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1513	1666	1546

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.